

VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
CENTER FOR ANGLICAN COMMUNION STUDIES



RESOURCING PRACTICES OF RECONCILIATION

- ▶ **Equipping International Community**
- ▶ **Empowering Intercultural Leaders**
- ▶ **Enriching Episcopal-Anglican Identity**



“Virginia Theological Seminary’s Center for Anglican Communion Studies is a unique place that is involved in shaping a Jesus movement deeply engaged in and related to World Anglicanism.”

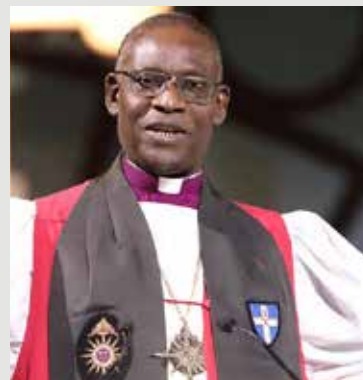
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church

FOR 200 YEARS, Virginia Theological Seminary has been at the forefront of international Anglican witness and education. The Center for Anglican Communion Studies is an integral part of that witness making available scholars and scholarship in the service of a reconciling intercultural Anglicanism.



“World Anglicanism continues to be a vital force for the work of the kingdom of God throughout the world.”

The Most Rev. Josiah Atkins Idowu-Fearon, Ph.D.  
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion





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“For me, a Communion Sabbatical at Virginia Theological Seminary meant not only a time to build relationships across cultural and geographical borders, but a time to experience ecumenism in the Anglican Communion. It was a time to reflect and focus on personal growth.”

Nedine Manyemba, Zimbabwe Council of Churches

# Equipping International Community

International networks of partnership, strategic advice for leaders across the Communion, sabbaticals for emerging international leaders

*We equip an international community* of Anglicans and Episcopalians by delivering conferences, providing consultations, and supporting partnerships and projects with theological institutions.

Institutional partners and project partners have included St. George’s College, Jerusalem; Msalato Theological College, Tanzania; Ripon College, Cuddesdon, UK; Trinity Church, Wall Street, USA; Ming Hua Theological College, Hong Kong; and Cuttington University, Liberia.

The Center for Anglican Communion Studies can provide expert consultation services and facilitation on a range of strategic areas. Topics include Anglican identity, ecclesiology, the nature of Anglican episcopacy, Christian leadership and mission, priorities for theological education, and models of reconciliation.

Strategic advice for leaders has been provided in a range of contexts that include provinces in Africa, the Middle East, North America, and the UK.

Through Anglican Communion Sabbaticals, we invite emerging scholars and leaders throughout the Communion to spend a few weeks at Virginia Theological Seminary. Guests share their expertise with the VTS community, participate in campus life, and take time for their own rest, renewal and research.



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“A partnership with Virginia Theological Seminary is a blessing as we serve God’s continuing mission together.”

The Rev. Canon Hilda Kabia  
Principal, Msalato Theological College,  
Dodoma, Tanzania

“In today’s globalized world it is absolutely critical to equip religious leaders with the necessary knowledge and skills to engage with religious diversity.”

Zeyneb Sayilgan, Ph.D.  
Center for Anglican  
Communion Studies  
Fellow Emerita in Peace and  
Reconciliation



“CACS has been a space where I can connect with the Communion while developing in my priestly identity. It was a place where I was able to engage in the world during my time in seminary. CACS has been synonymous with the word hospitality.”

The Rev. Maurice Dyer '19



## Empowering Intercultural Leaders

Cross-cultural education programs for seminarians, fellowships, interreligious solidarity, leadership training

We empower intercultural leaders through cross-cultural education programs (CCEPs) that encourage seminarians to deepen their formation through short-term international experiences. CCEPs have taken place in Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Israel/Palestine, Italy, Kenya, Myanmar, Oman, Tanzania, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

Our CACS Fellows program empowers intercultural leadership in the areas of World Anglicanism, Public Theology, and Peace and Reconciliation. Each Fellow produces research and writing that supports the Center and addresses questions that people of faith are asking today.

Interreligious solidarity is central to how we understand leadership. We work with a range of partners, especially with Muslim thinkers and leaders, as we promote dialogue and understanding that has local impact and international reach. In grant-funded initiatives we have worked with leaders in North America, East Africa, and the Middle East. Notably, we produced the popular text, *Faithful Neighbors: Christian-Muslim Vision and Practice* (Morehouse, 2016).

In leadership training, we are particularly focused on how faith that is formed interculturally can nourish life-giving and reconciling witness in communities that experience polarization and conflict. In the grant-funded project *Building Dialogue Across Conflict*, we brought together teams from Israel/Palestine, Liberia, Tanzania and the United States of America. The project strengthened relationships, deepened collaboration and resulted in theological resources for understanding conflict and building peace.

“The Center for Anglican Communion Studies is particularly well placed to provide hospitality to the Communion, to develop accessible resources for World Anglicanism, and to lead in practices of reconciliation.”

The Most Rev. & Rt. Hon. Justin Welby  
Archbishop of Canterbury



## Enriching Episcopal-Anglican Identity

International Anglican leaders on campus, consultations amidst deep disagreement, teaching and teaching resources on the history and ethos of Anglicanism

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*We enrich Episcopal-Anglican Identity* by highlighting diverse expressions of World Anglicanism within the broad context of ecumenical witness and interreligious plurality. We invite visiting scholars and leaders from across the world to campus and their contributions are often livestreamed. Guests from the international church and academy have come from, for example, Brazil, Cuba, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Palestine, Pakistan, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

In private and public dialogues and consultations we seek to provide space and resources for Episcopalians and Anglicans amidst deep disagreement. We bring together leaders and emerging leaders who find themselves in disagreement and conflict. *Reconciling Practices* involved ten theological students from five Episcopal seminaries. The project challenged them to walk alongside one another throughout the three years of their seminary formation. This culminated in the publication of biblical and liturgical material and in a seminar prepared for the fifteenth Lambeth Conference. We continue to work with bishops and other leaders on Anglican ecclesiology and understandings of doctrinal reception.



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We provide teaching, speakers, and resources on religious identity and history. Curricula for parish and classroom use are also available on a range of subjects including Episcopal-Anglican identity; Anglican theology of mission; Christian practices of reconciliation and peacebuilding; public theology and post-colonial theology.



“A key part of our identity as Episcopalians is that we are part of a global family. Thanks to the work of the Center for Anglican Communion Studies, we stay connected to Anglicans around the globe. The connection requires work. It is easy to retreat to the local. But we are determined to recognize the ever-changing nature of the Anglican Communion. I am deeply grateful to the dedicated team that works so hard to keep us connected.”

The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., Dean and President, Virginia Theological Seminary



“I deeply admire the Center’s efforts to promote vigorous cooperation among people of good faith.”

Madeleine Albright, Ph.D.  
former US Secretary of State



“The Center for Anglican Communion Studies is a leader in this field. Through its theological work and the relationships fostered we are regularly reminded that we belong to a worldwide communion.”

The Rt. Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover,  
Center for Anglican Communion Studies Fellow Emerita in Public Theology



## Connect with the Center for Anglican Communion Studies

### Seminarians

Take advantage of the Communion on campus via guests, fora, livestreams, and publications.

### Provinces and Dioceses

Contact CACS for retreat ideas, clergy training days, consultations, workshop materials and publications.

### Parishes and Organizations

Use our videos, livestreams, publications, and curricula in your formation programs. Invite CACS to present on current issues in Christian witness today.



For more information, visit [www.vts.edu/anglican](http://www.vts.edu/anglican)  
or email [cacs@vts.edu](mailto:cacs@vts.edu)



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